



FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY



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For Immediate Release

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Historic All Hallows' Eve Celebration at Sully

Treat yourself to Halloween fun and facts by heading to Sully Historic Site for the annual Historic All Hallows' Eve celebration which is ongoing from 4 to 7 p.m. on Saturday, October 24, 2015. It's a family-friendly event designed to shed light on centuries-old customs that evolved into the holiday traditions of today.

Get a glimpse of things that would have been done on All Hallows' Eve over the past millennium. Halloween, a shortened version of All Hallows' Eve, is typically linked to the Celtic festival of Samhain, ancient Roman festivals and All Saints Day that were a time for harvesting crops, a time of remembrance and a time when people took steps to protect themselves from harmful or evil spirits. Family gatherings, special foods and entertainment were highlights of these fall events.

Storytelling was an important aspect of All Hallows Eve. In some cultures oral history was the primary way to pass traditions from one generation to the next. Sit in the flickering fire light to hear traditional folk stories at the slave quarter.

The Legend of Sleepy Hollow is an American story closely associated with harvest parties and spirits. See scenes from Washington Irving's tale of Ichabod Crane and the headless horseman.

Find your way through our maze, make a decorative pumpkin to take home and hear the story of Jack o' the Lantern. Visit the outbuildings to see and smell stew cooked in a pumpkin shell and find out about "soul cakes." Help make apple butter over the open fire. Take a ride on our tractor-drawn wagon for \$2.

Tour the first floor of the 1794 house by lantern light. Hear about Halloween as it might have been celebrated at Sully in the 1950s. Find out what costumes were popular, what favorite candies were given out and games that were played at parties.

Children in costume, bring a bag or other container to collect your sweets as you trick or treat at different locations around the site!

Admission to this program is \$10. For more information call 703-437-1794 or to register visit us on the web at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/sully Sully Historic Site is located at 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly, VA.

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If accommodations and/or alternative formats are needed, please call (703) 324-8563, at least 10 working days in advance of the registration deadline or event. TTY (703) 803-3354.